



NEWS RELEASE

Department of Human Services
400 Deaderick Street
Nashville, TN 37219-1602

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STATEMENT OF THE TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Investigators from the Department of Human Services (DHS) have worked with the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department in the arrest of Regina Bradford on felony charges of theft. The theft involved almost \$8000 in benefits from the Food Stamp and Families First/Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) programs.

Ms. Bradford is a former eligibility counselor in the Hamilton County DHS office. She is accused of setting up a dummy case and taking the benefits for her own use from September 2000 to January 2002. When an internal investigation revealed this alleged misconduct, Ms. Bradford was fired immediately.

DHS takes these charges seriously, and is committed to curbing fraud and theft of benefits, no matter who may be involved. Anyone who suspects or knows about fraud or theft of benefits should call the DHS Fraud Hotline, toll-free, at 1 (800) 241-2629.